

WHITEFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954

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Whitefield Urban District Council

Chairman of the Council—
Councillor W. M. WILLIAMS, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE,
1954.

Councillor J. W. JONES, J.P., Chairman.

„ J. A. ATHERTON.
„ A. E. EXLEY.
„ C. FARRAND, J.P.
„ H. HODGSON.
„ C. E. KING.
„ R. KNIGHT.
„ E. LITHERLAND.
„ H. MILLER.
„ J. MILEY.
„ Mrs. C. M. WRAGBY.
„ W. M. WILLIAMS, J.P.

Clerk of the Council—
F. H. BUCKLEY.

Medical Officer of Health—
C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—
B. HODGSON, C.S.I. (Lond.), M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

Clerk-Typist—
Miss P. M. DAVIES.

**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District of Whitefield.

June, 1955.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1954 on the health and sanitary conditions of the district. The population has risen to 13,020 according to the Registrar General's estimate for mid-1954.

The adjusted live birth rate was 11.9, and the adjusted death rate 15.1 per thousand of the population. The rates for England and Wales were 15.2 and 11.3 respectively. There were in fact 147 births and 185 deaths in the district during the year.

For the first time for many years there were no infant deaths, neither were there any maternal deaths.

Cancer of the lung caused only three male deaths. The most frequent cause of death was coronary disease, that is, disease affecting the blood supply to the heart. Next in order of importance was disease affecting the blood supply to the brain resulting in a "stroke," or sudden collapse. These two causes, together with other diseases of the heart, accounted for half the total deaths.

There was no undue incidence of illness and infectious diseases were mainly measles and whooping cough affecting children under five years of age.

Immunising facilities for whooping cough are now being made available through welfare centres and general practitioners. A combined injection giving protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus is recommended for infants and young children. As yet there is no satisfactory protective inoculation for measles.

No samples of milk were found to contain tuberculosis, but 11 out of 30 samples were bacteriologically unsatisfactory. Whitefield has now become a designated area, and this means that the only raw milk available will be from tuberculin tested cattle.

The return of the control of meat slaughtering to local authorities engaged the attention of the Council, and one slaughterhouse has been licensed.

The water supply has been generally satisfactory, and the installation of additional filtration plant at Loveclough, Rawtenstall, is welcomed.

The number of houses completed by the Council during the year was 18, together with 27 completed by private enterprise.

The number of applicants for re-housing at the 31st December last was 321.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council and Staff for their advice and assistance during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. H. T. WADE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table I.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area—3,261 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-1954 13,020.

Number of inhabited houses, according to Rate Book at the end of 1954—4,563.

Rateable value, 1954—£83,937.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 1954/5—£339.

Table II.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1954.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate ...	144	71	73	} Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—11.3.
	Illegitimate....	3	1	2	
	Total	147	72	75	

Still Births 8 4 4 Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—52.

Deaths (all ages) 185 105 80 Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population—14.2.

Adjusted birth-rate—11.9 (comparability factor)—1.05.

Adjusted death-rate—15.1 (comparability factor)—1.06.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis Nil.
Other Maternal causes Nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

			TOTAL.
Legitimate	....	....	NIL.
Illegitimate	....	....	NIL.
			—
TOTAL	...	....	NIL.
			—

All infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	....	....	NIL.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	....	....	....	....	33
„ „ Measles (all ages)	....	....	....	....	NIL.
„ „ Whooping-cough (all ages)	....	....	....	....	NIL.

	Infant Mortality									
	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Total	
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
WHITEFIELD U.D.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
	147	11.3	185	14.2	8	52	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	171	13.2	139	10.7	3	17	Nil	Nil	4	23
	177	13.7	177	13.7	3	17	Nil	Nil	3	17
	168	13.0	174	13.5	7	40	2	11.43	1	6
	181	13.9	166	12.7	4	22	Nil	Nil	5	28
Average 5 years— 1949—1953	171	13.2	180	12.3	6	34	Nil	Nil	—	—
	—	13.4	—	12.58	—	—	—	2.286	—	—

Table III.—CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1954.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	1	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	3	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes.... .. .	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	14
Coronary disease, angina	28	7
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2
Other heart diseases	12	12
Other circulatory disease	2	6
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	9	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.... .. .	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	11
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1
All other accidents	2	—
Suicide	—	2
Homicide and operations of war.... .. .	—	—
All causes	105	80

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The water supply is obtained from the Irwell Valley Water Board.

Source of Supply—Upland Surface.

Supplies to Houses—

From Public Mains—

Number of Dwelling Houses	4,555
Estimated Number of Population	12,983

From Private Supplies (Wells, Springs, etc.)—

Number of Dwelling Houses	8
Estimated Number of Population	37

The water supply of the area has been—

- (a) in quality—Periodically not as satisfactory as desirable.
- (b) in quantity—Satisfactory.

Examinations made by the Irwell Valley Water Board of the raw water :—

- (a) Bacteriological examinations—No. 22.
Results—Unsatisfactory without treatment.
Chemical analyses—No. 6.
Results—Satisfactory.

Water going into supply, where treatment is installed—

- (b) Bacteriological examinations—No. 137.
Results—Satisfactory.
Chemical analyses—No. 32.
Results—Satisfactory.

Action taken by the I.V.W.B. in respect of any form of contamination—all water is chlorinated.

Plumbo-solvent action : The water is lime treated.

137 analyses were made with mainly satisfactory results.

Extensions of water mains : 496 yards of 3in. and 148 yards of 4in. mains for housing were laid during the year.

Section C—Housing 1936 Act.

In October representation was made by the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Section 154 relative to 13 houses situated in Hillock. In consequence of this representation the Council passed a resolution declaring the aforementioned area to be a Clearance Area.

In addition to the above, the Medical Officer of Health made ten representations under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and in each case demolition orders were made.

(a) Milk Supply.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Own dairies in the district	4
(b) Dairy farms in the district	3
(c) Premises outside the district	9
(d) Shops in the district other than dairies	23

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by local authority during 1954 in respect of:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Distribution	13
-------------------	----

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

No. of licences issued in respect of heat-treated milk.

Retail distributors:—

Pasteurised	52
Sterilised	33

Action taken by local authority in relation to—

(a) Raw Milk—

(i) Tuberculosis—biological tests.

No. of samples 27. Positive Nil. Negative 27.

(ii) Bacteriological examinations.

No. of samples 30. Satisfactory 19. Unsatisfactory 11.

(iii) Sediment tests.

No. of samples, None.

(b) “ Heat Treated ” Milk.

(i) Phosphatase test.

No. of samples 36. Satisfactory 36.

Unsatisfactory, None.

(ii) Turbidity test.

No. of samples 14. Satisfactory 14.

Unsatisfactory, None.

(iii) Methylene Blue reduction test.

No. of samples 35. Satisfactory 34.

Unsatisfactory 1.

(iv) Tuberculosis.

No. of samples, None.

Results of Ministry investigations by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries within the district during the year arising from notifications of tuberculous milk made by any local authority—

No. of veterinary inspections	4
„ cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938	2
„ animals seized	2
„ cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	Nil
„ cases reported negative, no animals seized	Nil

Action taken under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—

One case dealt with during the year. Order in operation from 7/5/54—23/7/54.

Meat Supply.

Routine inspection of meat in shops has continued. Details are given in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Ice-Cream.

The number of premises registered for the sale or manufacture of ice-cream at the close of the year was 34.

Ice-cream is manufactured by two persons in the area, whilst the remaining 32 persons purchase their ice-cream from wholesalers. The number of samples taken during the past year was 31. Of the 31 samples taken, 18 were classified as provisional grade 1, 10 were classified as provisional grade 2, three provisional grade 3, and none provisional grade 4. In all cases of unsatisfactory samples produced outside the area, the appropriate local authorities were notified, from whom full co-operation was received.

Bakehouses, Food Shops, and Fish Fryers.

Routine inspections have been made of all the above premises throughout the year. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Food Poisoning.

No case of food poisoning occurred during the year.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1954.

(after corrections subsequently made either by the notifying medical practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total cases at all Ages.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.								
		Under 1 yr.	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.							
			1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-4†	45-64	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	15	—	1	12	1	—	1	—	—	
Measles (excl. Rubella)....	34	—	10	14	—	1	1	—	—	
Whooping Cough	48	1	15	17	1	—	1	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia (prim. and infl'zal)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	5	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
TOTALS	108	1	21	27	44	4	2	6	2	1

The following cases were admitted to hospital:—8 Scarlet Fever. 1 Acute Poliomyelitis. Meningococcal Infection.

DIPHTHERIA.

Year.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.
1933	17	1
1934	11	Nil.
1935	14	Nil.
1936	17	2
1937	14	1
1938	51	2
1939	32	1
*1940	6	1
1941	3	Nil.
1942	Nil.	Nil.
1943	Nil.	Nil.
1944	4	Nil.
1945	5	Nil.
1946	Nil.	Nil.
1947	1	Nil.
1948	Nil.	Nil.
1949	Nil.	Nil.
1950	† 1	Nil.
1951	Nil.	Nil.
1952	Nil.	Nil.
1953	Nil.	Nil.
1954	Nil.	Nil.

* Immunisation Scheme started May, 1940.

† Clinical diagnosis only, not confirmed bacteriologically.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1954.

1. No. of Individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1954.

AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION									
0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	Total under 5 years	5-	10-	Total aged 5-14 inclusive	Total aged 15 & over
114	34	3	3	3	157	11	4	15	—

2. No. of Individuals who were given a reinforcement injection during 1954, i.e. subsequent to complete course.

AGE GROUP				
0-	5-	10-14 incl.	Total 0-14 Incl.	Total aged 15 & over
6	117	95	218	—

3. No. of Children who had completed a course of primary immunisation at any time up to 31.12.54

Age at 31.12.54 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1954	1—4 1953—1950	5—9 1949—1945	10—14 1944—1940	Total under 15
Number imm- unised	26	742	858	897	2523

National Assistance Act 1948—Section 47.

No action was deemed necessary under the above section during the year.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections in regard to general hygiene, sanitary accommodation, and means of escape in case of fire, have been carried out. Close co-operation is maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories. Details of the inspections are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. A report given under Section 128 of the Factories Act, 1937, is appended.

1.—INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	10	16	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	58	52	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL....	68	68	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)....	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	2	2	—	2	—
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	3	—

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT
OF WHITEFIELD.**

Health and Cleansing Department,
Town Hall,
Whitefield.

June, 1955.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my 26th Annual Report of the Sanitary Circumstances of the area for the year ending December 31st, 1954, whilst the section of the report dealing with Cleansing and Rodent Control is for the financial year ending March 31st, 1955.

During the period under review 1,721 premises were visited, 250 nuisances or defects were found, and 204 abated. 82 Informal and 10 Statutory Notices were served.

It is gratifying to be able to report that commencement was made on the inspection of houses in Hillock Area. This is a matter which has been reported upon for the past few years.

May I express to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Clerk of the Council, Medical Officer of Health, Surveyor, and the staff in general, my appreciation for the assistance and co-operation shown to me during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

B. HODGSON,
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Complaints Investigated	73
Bakehouses	43
Dairies and Cowsheds	24
Knackers Yard	43
Food Shops and Street Vendors	241
Factories	33
Outworkers	6
Fried Fish Shops	6
 Dwelling-houses—Public Health Acts	65
Housing Acts	32
Infectious Diseases	29
Council Houses	74
Re-visits—Public Health Acts	161
Housing Acts	38
 Drainage Inspections	127
Piggeries and Stables	21
Builders and Owners Interviewed	10
Rodent Control	302
Work in Progress—Public Health Acts	55
Ice-cream Premises	18
Shops Act	166
Cleansing Visits	21
Miscellaneous	97
Housing Tenancy	14
Schools	8
Licensed Houses	12
Petroleum Acts	8

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Interior of Houses—

	1953	1954
Ceilings and walls replastered	16	15
New Skirting Boards fixed	—	2
Floors repaired or renewed	3	4
Dampness abated	9	23
Windows repaired or renewed	11	14
New sinks fixed	3	—
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired	3	—
Fire Ranges repaired	2	4
Doors renewed or repaired	3	—
Brickwork repaired	—	3
Hot water service repaired	1	—
Window cords renewed	13	4
Windows made to open	—	2
Adequate water supply provided	5	—
Service pipes repaired	2	2
Sky lights repaired	1	—

Exterior of Houses—

Roofs repaired	11	8
Walls re-pointed or rendered	6	12
Chimneys repaired or rebuilt	5	6
Eaves Gutters renewed or repaired	15	12
Yards repaired or re-paved	4	3
Rain water pipes renewed	7	8
Brickwork repaired	2	2
Rain water pipe disconnected from drain	—	1

Drainage—

Drains Cleansed	16	22
Drains Repaired	3	16
Drains reconstructed	3	3

Drainage—continued.

	1953	1954
New Glazed Gullies fixed	12	4
Ventilation Shafts repaired	1	1
Inspection Chambers repaired	2	—
Inspection Chambers provided	—	1
Rain water pipe disconnected from soil pipe....	1	—

Sanitary Conveniences—

W.C. Fittings renewed or repaired	4	9
W.C. Structures repaired or rebuilt	18	2
W.C. Service Pipes repaired	8	5
Rochdale Pails renewed	—	3
W.C. Pedestals renewed	2	5
W.C. Cleansed	1	—
Waste Water Closets repaired	1	—

Miscellaneous—

Dust Bins provided	—	4
Accumulations removed	2	4

HOUSING.**Number of New Houses Erected.**

During the year 45 houses were built in the area.

(i) By the Local Authority	18
(ii) By other bodies or persons	27
	—
	45

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	97
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	293
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	32
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	94
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	23
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	70

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	27
--	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

- (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs None.
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit :
 - (a) By owners None.
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners None.
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 10
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 7
 - (b) By local authority in default of owners None.
- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 10
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 3
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings “not to occupy” were accepted by the local authority None.

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses, separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | None. |
| (2) Number of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit | None. |

((e) Proceedings under section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| (1) Number of clearance areas represented | 1 |
| (2) Number of houses concerned in (1) | 13 |
| (3) Number of areas cleared | None. |
| (4) Number of houses concerned in (3) | None. |
| (5) Number of residents displaced in (3) and (4) | None. |
| (6) Number of houses built by local authority to re-house residents displaced under Clearance Orders | None. |

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

- | | |
|---|----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | * |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | * |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | * |
| * Not known with any degree of accuracy. | |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 2 |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 2 |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 16 |

Disinfestation.

During the year one complaint was received of an infestation of bed bugs, and the premises were effectively treated with D.D.T.

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF THE
FOOD SUPPLY.**

The above subject is one which has received every attention of the Department during the year. The work in this direction has not only been devoted to the inspection of premises where food is prepared or sold, but to the inspection of food brought in by hawkers. In addition, special attention has been paid to the delivery by wholesalers of bread and confectionery, and on several occasions I have had to draw the attention of drivers of bread vans to the need for using a basket when delivering bread. Though the wholesaler goes to the expense of providing this means of delivery, in many instances it was too much trouble for the driver to put them into operation.

The stacking of empty trays along side the vehicle after delivery is another fault which I have had to draw attention to, as apart from dust and dirt, there is the possibility of the trays being fouled by dogs.

The delivery of bread by wholesalers is now becoming a thing of magnitude, and as it is important for the provision of washing facilities on food premises, so it is just as important that provisions should be provided on vehicles used for this purpose. At the present time drivers have to rely on the good will of the private individuals.

Traders in the area have throughout the year continued to co-operate with the Department in carrying out work with a view to improving their premises and thus conforming to modern day requirements.

The approximate number of premises where food is sold is 133, and is comprised as follows:—

General grocers and provision dealers	39
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	13
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	2
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	17
Bakers and/or confectioners	15
Fried Fish Shops	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.	16
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	22

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14.

Number and type of premises registered under the above for

Manufacture of meat pies	12
Preparation of cooked meats	13
Fish Fryers	9
Manufacture or sale of ice-cream	33

Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. Registration of Hawkers of Food.

Ten persons are registered as hawkers of food within the area of the Urban District Council, and comprise as follows:—

Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	5
Tripe and Cooked Meats	1
Ice-Cream	4

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950.

The provisions of the above Acts relating to the sampling of food for quality are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

I am indebted to Dr. S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health for the following summary of works carried out in this district:—

A total of 66 samples was obtained. Of these 33 were of milk (this total includes 5 Channel Islands milks), and the 33 others comprised:—

1 Castor oil	1 Rice creamola pudding mixture
2 Epsom salts	1 Aspirin tablets
1 Cough mixture	2 Semolina
1 Cakes	1 Dried mixed herbs
1 Mince tarts	1 Dried sage
1 Ice cream	1 Sponge cake and sponge pudding mixture
3 Pale ale	1 Dried thyme
2 Grapefruit crush (Mineral water)	2 Margarine
1 Pure dairy cream sterilised, canned	1 Oatmeal
1 Sago cremola pudding mixture	1 Borax B.P.
2 Ground arrowroot	2 Whisky
	1 Rum
	2 Gin

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Action taken.
1 Dried Thyme	Sand and siliceous matter 4.7%, i.e., an excess of 0.7%	No action taken.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

During the year a sample of milk taken in an adjoining area was found on examination to be infected with Tubercle Bacilli, such sample was produced on a farm within the Council's area. Investigation was carried out by the Divisional Veterinary Officer, and a notice was served under Section 20 of the above Regulations

on the farmer concerned to take steps to have all the milk produced on his premises to be adequately heat treated. Such notice was for the period from the 7th May, 1954, until 23rd July, 1954.

**Food and Drubs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.
The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order,
1954.**

The above Order became operative on 1st October, 1954, requiring all Dairymen retailing milk to sell milk under special designation. The operation of this Order resulted in the abolition of the sale of loose milk. This was something which was long overdue, and the risk of contamination from retailer to consumer has now been reduced to a minimum, and it is sincerely hoped that the public will appreciate this advancement, and endeavour to co-operate with the retailer by returning to him all milk bottles in a clean condition.

Milk Samples.

The following table gives details of samples of milk taken and submitted for examination during the year.

It will be observed that 15 samples of ungraded raw milk and 15 of tuberculin tested milk were taken during the year. Of the 30 samples taken eleven failed to satisfy the methylene blue test. Of the eleven unsatisfactory samples eight were produced within the Council's area, and as I stated in my last report I am of the opinion that this high percentage of unsatisfactory samples is due to the lack of adequate care and supervision at the point of production. In the case of unsatisfactory samples copies of the reports are forwarded to the Chief Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the area, who causes a visit to be made by a member of his staff and to give such advice as is necessary.

TABLE OF SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN.

Source of Supply.	No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		No. of Samples satisfying the Turbidity Test.	T.B. Positive.	T.B. Negative.
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.			
Local Farmers Ungraded ..	12	8	4					12
Out District Farmers Ungraded	3	1	2					1
Sterilised	14					14		
Pasteurised	19	19		19				
Tuberculin Tested (Local)	11	7	4					9
Tuberculin Tested Out District Farmers	5	3	1					5
T.T. Pasteurised	17	16	1	17				
TOTAL	81	54	12	36	—	14	—	27

Ice-Cream.

Thirty-one samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results were as follows :—

18	Provisional	Grade 1	....	....	....	....	58.06%
10	„	„	2	....	....	....	32.26%
3	„	„	3	....	....	....	9.68%

Meat and Other Foods.

The following unsound food were condemned and surrendered from shops in the area :—

2 Tins of Peas	1 Tin of Peach Pulp
3 Tins of Cooked Ham	2 Tins of Frozen Egg
1 Tin of Chicken	4 Tins of Ox Tongues.

Knackers Yard.

There is one knackers yard in the area, which has been satisfactorily maintained.

Bakehouses.

Forty-three inspections were made to the 13 bakehouses in the area, which were found to be maintained satisfactorily.

Shops Act, 1950.

At the request of the County Council, this Council agreed to your Sanitary Inspector carrying out the inspectoral duties which the County Council are required to administer under the provisions of the above Act, in addition to the duties for which the Local Authority is responsible.

All reports relative to inspections carried out are forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health, whose staff carry out the administrative duties appertaining thereto.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year :—

Month.	Inspections.
January	1
February	23
May	5
July	22
August	11
September	14
October	9
November	74
December	7
	<hr/>
Total	166
	<hr/>

Number of contraventions reported to the County Council as to :—

Failure to exhibit form “ K ” or otherwise supply a copy of this form to each person effected	3
Failure to exhibit Forms “ E,” “ F,” “ G ” and “ H ”	3
Failure to exhibit weekly half-holiday notice	1

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The following works were carried out during the year :—

One Pail Closet was converted to a Fresh Water Closet on Factory premises.

One Privy Closet was converted to a Fresh Water Closet, and new drainage provided with septic tank and filter on farm premises.

One Waste Water Closet was converted to a Fresh Water Closet.

Three Privy Closets were converted to Pail Closets.

The following table gives details of Sanitary Accommodation in the area on the 31st December, 1954 :—

Privy Closets	24	Fresh Water Closets	4524
Pail Closets	63	Waste Water Closets	70
Privy Middens	10	Dust Bins	4747

REGISTER OF FACTORIES.

Bleachers, Dyers and Finishers, etc.	6
Bakehouses	13
Confectioners	2
Gas Appliances	1
Towel and Tape Weaving	4
Joiners and Builders	13
Plumbers	8
Cycle Repairs	1
Plastics	1
Plaster Casts	1
Electrical Repairs	1
Blacksmiths	1
Metal Crafts	1
Weaving	1
Furniture Manufacturers, etc.	2
Motor Engineers	3
Tailors and Pressers	3
Rubber Works	1
Boot Repairers, etc.	6
Clothing Manufacturers	1
Wood Turning	1
Boot Lace Finishing	1

INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1943.

The work of rodent control during the past year received the full attention of the Department, and it will be seen from table 1 that much time and energy has been devoted to this very important section of the Department's work.

The importance of the work of rodent control is greatly dependent upon receiving the full co-operation from the public, and in this direction the inhabitants of the district have been very active in notifying the Department on the first signs of an infestation.

There are two employees trained in the recognised technique of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and their services are available for dealing with infestations.

Table 1 gives a full detail of works carried out with the exception of sewer treatment, which is shown in Table 2, whilst Table 3 is a detail of the work carried out and materials used on business premises. Business premises are treated by the Department at the request of the respective owners. In addition to the premises treated by the Department, certain firms in the area let the work out to private contractors.

One gratifying feature in this work is the co-operation received from the public. Of the 51 houses treated, 41 were the results of complaints received from householders.

The free service for treatment of private dwellings enjoyed by the public plays a very vital part in bringing to the notice of the Department any infestations which may occur.

TABLE 1. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Auth'ty	(2) Dwelling Houses (includ- ing Council Houses)	(3) All other (includ- ing Bus- ness Premises	(4) Total of Cols. 1 2 & 3	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	8	4563	193	4764	16
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	2	41	9	52	3
(b) Survey under the Act.	6	10	—	16	13
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose).	—	2	—	2	—
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections.	25	141	105	271	31
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 11) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	17	5	23	—
(b) Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	36	4	41	—
5. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A.	2	53	9	64	—
6. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	6	53	9	68	—
7. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :					
(a) Treatment	None	None	None	None	None
(b) Structural work (i.e. Proofing)	None	None	None	None	None
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	None	None	None	None	None
9. Legal Proceedings.	None	None	None	None	None
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	None	None	None	None	None

Sewer Treatment.

Two sewer treatments have been carried out during the period under review, and one was in operation at the end of March, 1955.

Table 2.

	No. of Manholes Baited.	Complete Takes.	Partial Takes.	No Takes.
FIRST TREATMENT	520	—	297	223
SECOND TREATMENT	530	1	295	234

Table 3.

No. of Premises.	Hours	Materials.		Cost
		Oatmeal	Warfarin	
10	43½	29lbs. 13ozs.	1lb. 8ozs.	£10 15s. 0d.

RAG FLOCK AND FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There are no premises in the area used for the manufacture of rag flock or other filling materials, whilst one is registered for the use of filling material.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no camping or caravan sites in the area.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

Fifteen licences were granted for the keeping of Petroleum, to which the Petroleum Acts apply. Three licences were granted for the keeping of Cellulose Solution.

GAME ACT, 1831.

One licence to deal in game was granted by the Council.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The subject of Atmospheric Pollution is one that has received the attention of the Department during the year, and though no timed observations were taken of Works Chimneys in the area, this is no indication of the work carried out, as several visits were made to factories, and discussions have taken place with Works' Managers, Engineers and Boiler Firemen on this vital question with a view to reducing the emissions of smoke to a minimum.

The Council are members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, and are one of the 17 participating authorities of a joint scheme which was inaugurated in 1951 for the investigation of atmospheric pollution.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

The subject matter of this report deals with the financial year ending 31st March, 1955.

Refuse Collection.

This work is carried out by 1—10 cubic yard Freighter with six loaders employed full time, 1—9 cubic yard Fordson Jekta with driver and one loader employed approximately two days a week.

The following table gives details of work carried out:—

Bins Emptied.	Pails Emptied.	Privies Emptied.	Loads.
214,962	2,392	25	1,478

During the latter part of the period under review it was impossible to maintain a weekly collection of domestic refuse. This was due to several factors beyond the control of the Department. The work was retarded in the first instance due to the fall of snow, and secondly one of the Refuse Collectors left, and up to the present time it has been impossible to replace him.

The public could be of great assistance to the Department if they would use the dust bin for the reception of such refuse which is not of a salvage character, and also refrain from putting garden refuse into their bins, as such a practice greatly reduces the number of bins collected per day.

Salvage.

The Council continued to collect salvage throughout the year. There was an increase of approximately 9 tons of paper collected during the period under review as against the previous year, whilst the price received per ton for waste paper increased from £6 10s. 0d. to £8 10s. 0d.

The Council are most grateful for the services received from Salvage Stewards, who play a very important part in the work of salvage collection.

Kitchen Waste.

The Kitchen Waste Service continued to function throughout the year. The amount collected was approximately 42 tons less than that collected in the previous year, this reduction in weight is due to the removal of communal bins. The removal of such bins from the streets was, I feel, a step in the right direction, and greatly appreciated by the public.

Dust Bin Maintenance Service.

The above scheme was inaugurated in June, 1950, and is of great value to the Department insomuch that dilapidated dust bins can be replaced immediately without having to resort to informing the owners and probably later having to serve a statutory notice.

Since the inception of the scheme, 1,599 bins have been replaced. During the financial year 1954/55, 382 dust bins were replaced. Of this number 115 bins of 2 cubic feet capacity were provided.

In previous reports I have mentioned methods by which the public can assist in lengthening the life of the dust bin, one of which was that the bin should be given an occasional coat of paint, and I am very gratified to be able to report that such advice has been adopted by a number of residents, and it is hoped others will follow.

REVENUE FROM SALES OF RESIDUALS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	151	7	1	7	1046	16	6
Rags	1	8	3	14	30	6	5
Kitchen Waste	202	3	3	—	788	11	9
Concentrate	4	10	—	—	45	18	4
Woollens	—	1	3	3	9	3	10
Aluminium	—	2	2	20	7	10	0
Scrap Iron	4	12	—	—	3	9	0
Scrap Lead	—	1	—	—	3	12	0
					<hr/> £1,935 7 10 <hr/>		

COST OF COLLECTION.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	3108	2	4
Transport	1011	7	3
Holidays	189	4	6
Sick Pay	94	2	3
Insurance	109	15	5
Bins	464	15	9
Overalls and Gloves	37	3	9
Sundries	7	0	7
Depot Charges	68	2	5
Tools	76	6	11
<hr/> £5166 1 2 <hr/>			

COST OF DISPOSAL.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	722	17	10
Holidays	44	0	5
Sick Pay	21	17	10
Insurance	25	10	8
Sundries	5	9	2
Coke, Gloves and Overalls, etc.	21	4	4
Depot Charges	2	16	6
Stores Tools	12	13	2
Loan Charges	47	9	7
	<hr/>		
	£903	19	6
	<hr/>		

COST OF SALVAGE.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	1153	6	10
Transport (Motor)	382	13	7
Transport (Electric)	316	10	4
Holidays	70	4	0
Sick Pay	34	18	4
Insurance	40	14	5
Gloves and Overalls	19	11	0
Depot Charges	2	11	2
Baling Wire	27	3	8
Concentrate	38	5	0
Tools	31	5	9
	<hr/>		
	£2117	4	1
	<hr/>		

COLLECTION. DISPOSAL.

Nett Cost per 1,000 population	£397	£69
Nett Cost per 1,000 houses	£1259	£200

